



National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Crows Landing Flight Facility [former Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, Crows Landing]

This Fact Sheet provides information regarding munitions, or unexploded ordnance (UXO) items, which have been discovered during the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) and other activities at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility (the Facility). This facility is formerly known as the Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF), Crows Landing and is located in Stanislaus County, California.

To date, the Navy has found and removed projectiles and fragments of projectile fins during environmental investigations. It is possible that other types of munitions, inert or live, may be present.

Surface and near surface metallic debris and munitions items have been identified during previously completed inspections, surveys, and trenching activities. These items were found at or near IRP Site 11 (Disposal Pits) near the central section of the Facility, IRP Site 18 North (Former Target Berm), IRP Site 18 South (Live Ammunition Area), and the area adjacent to Little Salado Creek in the western section of the Facility. Examples of munitions items that have been found at the Facility are shown in Photographs 1 and 2.

The Navy will continue acquiring and reviewing historical records, conducting visual inspections, exploratory trenching, conducting geophysical surveys, and removing munitions items. The Navy will update the community regarding the presence or potential presence of munitions at the Facility. Copies of plans and reports pertaining to munitions will be placed in the local information repository located at the Patterson Branch of the Stanislaus Public Library.

Photograph 1. 20mm rounds discovered and removed near Little Salado Creek (near IRP Site 18).



(U.S. Navy Photograph)

Photograph 2. 2.25-inch rocket removed near IRP Site 11.



(U.S. Navy Photograph)

Munitions Safety – What You Should Know and Do

*** DO NOT TOUCH, MOVE, OR DISTURB
SUSPECTED MUNITIONS OR ORDNANCE ***

UXO, or potentially live munitions, could be present. If a munitions item is disturbed, an explosion may result. Training and practice munitions may contain some type of spotting charge that simulates an explosive impact. The spotting charge may contain a few grains to several pounds of explosives.

Munitions/UXO Safety Precautions

- **Never approach a suspected explosive ordnance item.**
- **Never attempt to move or disturb any munition.**
- **Always leave munitions handling to the professionals**
- **Never assume that any munitions found at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility are harmless. Do not touch or move anything you see that could potentially be a munition.**
- **Heed all warning signs (if you see a sign stating “Danger – Explosives – Keep Out,” keep out of that area. Avoid all areas where munitions are known to be located.**
- **Report munitions or anything that looks like UXO to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department at (209) 837-4805 or (209) 581-4335.**
- **If you have a “war trophy” that you suspect might be live, contact the Sheriff's Department for assistance.**

Historical Background

The former NALF Crows Landing was commissioned in May 1943 and has served primarily as an auxiliary airfield for operations from Naval Air Station, Moffett Field. The Navy closed the facility in 1994 in accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act, and it was transferred to NASA on July 1, 1994. In October 1999, NASA was authorized by legislative act of the 106th Congress of the United States of America (Public Law 106-82) to transfer the facility to Stanislaus County.

The Navy is responsible for the restoration of contaminated sites that were the result of historical Navy operations at the facility. The Navy is the lead agency for the implementation of the Installation Restoration Program. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board provide regulatory oversight.

Opportunities for Community Involvement

The Navy will provide periodic updates to the community through Fact Sheets and Public Notices. These documents are available for viewing on the Navy's Environmental web site at the following address: <http://www.efdswnavfac.navy.mil/Environmental/CrowsLanding.htm#facts>

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Administrative Record documents are available at the Information Repository at the Stanislaus County Library, Patterson Branch, 46 North Salado Avenue, Patterson, CA, telephone: (209) 892-6473.

For More Information

For more information pertaining to the Navy's environmental restoration program projects at the Facility, please contact:

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